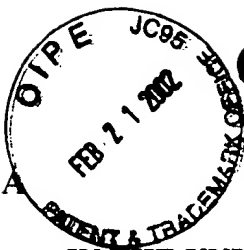


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Erlanson et al.

Appl. No. : 09/990,421

Filed : November 21, 2001

For : AN EXTENDED TETHERING
APPROACH FOR RAPID
IDENTIFICATION OF
LIGANDS

) Group Art Unit 1626

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Examiner : Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application in the following aspects.

In the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0001] by the following new paragraph:

- - This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 1.19(e) of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/252,294 filed on November 21, 2000 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/310,725 filed on August 7, 2001. - -

Please replace paragraph [0024] by the following new paragraph:

- - Figure 2 is a schematic illustration of the static extended tethering approach. In the first step, a target molecule containing or modified to contain a free thiol group (such as a cysteine-containing protein) is modified by a thiol-containing extender, comprising a reactive group capable of forming an irreversible covalent bond with the thiol group on the target molecule, a portion having intrinsic affinity for the target molecule, and a thiol group. The

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